(b) to (e) Do not arise

Impact of big retail companies on small stores

944. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been 16 per cent decline in sales and a similar decline in profit for the small stores located in areas where big branded retail stores opened;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that around 42 per cent of the total number of small stores in the country down their shutters every year and over 17 per cent of them go out of business on account of competition from big retail companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) This Ministry has not maintained any data on sale turnover of small stores. However, in their report on the Study on Impact of Organised Retailing on the Unorganised sector, the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) have, based on a sample survey covering four cities, reported that the turnover and profit of unorganised retailers located in the vicinity of organised retail has declined by 16%.

(c) and (d) Government has not maintained any data on closure of small stores. However, in its report, the ICRIER has, based on a sample survey, reported that a total of 151 small shops had closed down in the country over an average period of 21 months which is about 4.2 per cent annualised closure of retailers. The report has stated that despite adverse impact, a large majority of unorganised retailers showed their determination to continue in business.

Export through Wagha-Atari border

†945. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started its preparations to send Indian goods to Pakistan, Gulf countries and Europe through Wagha-Atari border;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the potentiality of increase in trade there in coming days;

(d) the mechanism in place for carrying out trade at present;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.